

risen to the dignity of an Abbé, was thrown into prison and conveyed to Bordeaux for deportation to Cayenne, with other offenders guilty of belonging to the priesthood. During the visit of a surgeon to the prison the latter saw Latreille pick up an insect and look at it carefully. "Is it rare?" he asked. "Yes," said Latreille. "Give it me," said the surgeon, "for I have a friend who is interested in insects." "Take it, and ask him to give me its name," said Latreille. But the surgeon brought back the reply that he could not discover the name, and that it was probably a new species; and then Latreille gave him a message to his friend Bory de St. Vincent, a man of considerable influence, who was able to exert it to release him from his imprisonment, and thereby saved his life, for the vessel in which he was to have sailed was lost with all on board, except some of the crew, who escaped in a boat. The insect, the capture of which led to such important results, was *Necrobis ruficollis*, Fabricius, a small beetle belonging to the Malacodermata.

EDM. BORDAGE. *Recherches anatomiques et biologiques sur l'Autotomie et la Régénération chez divers Arthropodes.* (Reprinted from 'Bulletin scientifique de la France et de la Belgique,' vol. xxxix. 1905, pp. 307-454, pl. vi. & 20 text-figs.)

A TREATISE on the power possessed by various insects (especially Phasmidæ) of reproducing lost limbs, either when a limb has been cast by the insect itself to facilitate its escape from an enemy, or when a limb has been injured, or amputated for experimental purposes. The author is the Director of the Museum of Natural History in the island of Réunion, and has paid special attention to the question in the case of two large Phasmids (*Monandroptera inuncans*, Serv., and *Rhaphiderus scabrosus*, Serv.) which inhabit that island. The brochure will be very interesting to entomologists who occupy themselves with insect physiology.

*The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma.* Published under the authority of the Secretary of State for India in Council. Edited by Lt.-Col. C. T. BINGHAM. — *Butterflies.* Vol. II. By Lt.-Col. C. T. BINGHAM. London: Taylor & Francis, 1907. 8vo. Pp. viii, 480; pls. xi.-xix.

THE second volume of this important work includes the Papilionidæ, the Pieridæ, and the following five subfamilies of Lycaenidæ:—Gerydinæ, Lycaeninae, Curetinae, Liphyrinae, and Poritiinae. Two more subfamilies of Lycaenidæ (Arhopalinae and Theclinae) remain over till the next volume.

It will thus be seen that the volume includes a considerable portion of the most conspicuous and interesting butterflies. In the Papilionidæ six genera are included—*Armandia*, *Leptocircus*, *Ticino-*

*palpus*, *Papilio*, *Parnassius*, and *Hypermnestra*; the 76 species of *Papilio* not being broken into small genera, as was attempted by F. Moore and others, but arranged in 26 groups, according to the scheme of Felder, as expanded by the Hon. W. Rothschild, even *Ornithoptera* being treated simply as a group. In the Pieridæ and Lycænidæ the genera are much more numerous, and seldom include many species.

Comparatively few European species extend to India; but it is worthy of note that of the twelve Indian species of *Pieris* seven are European, including our three common Whites and *Pieris duplidice*. Our two Clouded Yellows are also among the nine Indian species, the only other European *Colias* found in India being an Alpine form of the Polar *Colias nastes*. Our Clouded Yellows stand as *C. hyale*, Linn., and *C. croceus*, Fourcroy.

The section on Lycænidæ includes much that will be read with great interest respecting the relations between these butterflies and ants.

The letterpress is written with great care, and it would be difficult to overestimate the value of this book either to collectors in the field or to home students of butterflies. The illustrations are all by Horace Knight, and include 10 plates, excellently reproduced in colour-photography, and 104 (often multiple) numbered figures in the text.

W. F. K.

## PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

### GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

February 6th, 1907.—J. E. Marr, Sc.D., F.R.S.,  
Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following communication was read:—

‘Note on the Cervical Vertebra of *Zeuglodon* from the Barton Clay of Barton Cliff (Hampshire).’ By Charles William Andrews, B.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., F.G.S.

The Author gives a brief description of a cervical vertebra from the Barton Clay of Barton Cliff. It is referred provisionally to *Zeuglodon Wanklynii*, a species described in 1876 by Prof. H. G. Seeley. The skull on which this description was founded is totally lost, so that this vertebra is the only bone of a *Zeuglodon* from the Barton Clay, and, with the possible exception of a vertebra from the Brockenhurst Beds (which is the type of *Balenoptera Juddi*), the only one found in the British Isles that now exists.